

JCO3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 MAY 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshihiko OKAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/523,033
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/11425)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : September 8, 2003

For : FURNACE WALL STRUCTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification and the International Search Report issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP03/11425, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report was enclosed with the papers when entering the National Stage on February 2, 2005. The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited therein. The following is a list of the documents cited in the above-noted documents:

U.S. Patent No. 4,864,973; and

Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-525050A, together with an English language abstract of the same and a partial English language translation of the claims and patent family member International Patent Application Publication No. WO 98/51964;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-186801A, together with an English language abstract of the same; and

Japanese Utility Model No. SHO 61-23004U, together with an English language abstract of the same.

Applicants also call Examiner's attention to the following document:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-130701A, together with an English language abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 3 of the specification of the present application.

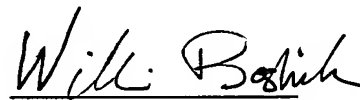
Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Toshihiko OKAMOTO et al.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Will. Boshnick", written in black ink.

William Boshnick
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May 3, 2005
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Application No.
10/523,033

Group
Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.